

The invention concerns the use of pure boswellic acid, a physiologically acceptable salt, a derivative, a salt of the derivative or a plant preparation containing boswellic acid for preventing and/or combatting diseases, or preparing a medicament for treating diseases, which are caused by increased leucocytic elastase or plasmin activity or can be treated by the inhibition of normal leucocytic elastase or plasmin activity, in human or veterinary medicine

In particular, the invention concerns preventing and/or combatting diseases such as pulmonary emphysema, acute respiratory distress syndrome, shock lung, cystic fibrosis (mucoviscidosis), chronic bronchitis, glomerulonephritis and rheumatoid arthritis, which are caused by increased leucocytic elastase activity, tumors and neoplasm or tumor metastases, which are caused by increased plasmin activity or can be treated by the inhibition of normal leucocytic elastase or plasmin activity

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Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1. Inhibition of human leucocytic elastase (HLE) by acetyl-11-keto- β -boswellic acid at substrate concentrations of 50, 100 and 150 μ M.

Figure 2. Inhibition of plasmin activity by β -boswellic acid (β -BA), acetyl-11-keto- β -boswellic acid (AKBA) and ursolic acid.

Description of the Preferred Embosiments--